

*Stated Meeting, May 1st, 1874.*

Present, 17 members.

Vice-President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Letters accepting membership were received from Dr. W. Camac, dated Philadelphia, April 30th; from Mr. Frank Thomson, dated Altoona, April 28th; from Prof. C. A. Young, dated Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., April 22d; from Mr. Raphael Pumpelly, dated Newburg, N.Y., April 22d.

A letter announcing the death of his father was received from M. C. Quetelet, dated Brussels, April 2d, 1874.

A letter, dated 12 Queen Victoria street, London, E. C., April 14th, was received from Mr. Fairman, Editor of the *Eastern Echo*.

A letter from Mr. R. Patterson requested the members of the Society to inspect his copy of Mrs. Peale's "Memorial Volume," of which only twenty-five copies had been printed for private distribution. The folio which lay upon the table contained 81 plates, representing 1,153 specimens of relics of the Stone Age, found in Europe and America, and collected and mounted in the cabinet of the late Mr. Franklin Peale, of Philadelphia, a member of the Society. These plates are all photographs, described in a catalogue prefaced to the volume. As Mrs. Peale has declared her intention to present the cabinet itself to the American Philosophical Society, no copy of the volume is reserved for the the Library.

A letter requesting the use of books was received from Mr. Blasius, and, on motion of Mr. Whitman, the Librarian was authorized to loan such books on Meteorology as Mr. Blasius needed for his investigations, taking proper receipts for their safe return.

Donations for the Library were reported from the Academies at Berlin and Brussels; the Annales des Mines and Revue Politique; the Royal and R. Astronomical Societies;

London Nature; and Mr. Prestwich; the Essex Institute, Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.; Boston Public Library; American Antiquarian Society; Mass. School for Idiots; Harvard College; Mus. Com. Zoölogy; American Chemist; Dr. Raynold Coates; Prof. Cope; McCalla & Stavelly; Pennsylvania Board of Public Charities; Buffalo S. N. Soc.; University of South Carolina; and Mr. Michley, of Pennsylvania.

The death of Prof. John Phillips, of Oxford, was announced by the Secretary.

On motion, the Publication Committee was discharged from the consideration of Dr. Allen's paper, and Messrs. Whitman, Lesley and Brinton were appointed a Committee to report to the Society upon the cost of its publication.

Dr. C. M. Cresson communicated the results of analysis of coal from the different benches or layers of the Mammoth bed, with a comparison of their heating powers, &c., illustrated by diagrams.

Mr. Chase communicated, through the Secretary, a letter from Dr. Wm. F. Channing, of Boston, on the need of additional signal service at the Bermudas and along the New England archipelago.

On motion, a copy of the communication was ordered to be sent for the consideration of the U. S. Bureau S. S.

Mr. Lorin Blodget exhibited on a chart of the United States a centre of maximum sudden variation in temperature during the winter months, and explained his views of the cause of the phenomenon.

Prof. Houston, Mr. Briggs, Dr. Emerson, Mr. Lesley, Mr. Whitman, and Gen. Stokes joined in the discussion which ensued.

Dr. Emerson ascribed the gradual translation southward of the peach-belt of the Atlantic coast to the progressive removal of the forests, exposing the fruit to severe variations of climate.

Gen. Stokes showed, by his experience in peach planting on limestone soils, and by the later development and long

fruitful life of his large old trees, that the chemical constitution of the soil must be considered an element in the problem.

Mr. John Fulton, of Saxton, communicated, through the Secretary, a new and more complete section of the coal beds of Somerset Co., Pa.

Prof. Fraser communicated a statement supplementary to his observations in September last on the color of the moon.

Mr. Fraley reported the receipt of the last quarter's rentes from the Michaux Legacy investment

And the meeting was adjourned.

*Stated Meeting, May 15th, 1874.*

Present, 13 members.

Vice-President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

Dr. W. Camac, a new member, was introduced to the presiding officer, and took his seat.

A letter declining membership from inability to attend the meetings was received from Mr. J. C. Browne, dated 907 Clinton street, Philadelphia, May 1st, 1874

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the U. S. Observatory, Washington, May 4th. 1874 (II., V., XII., XIII., XIV., XVI., 69, 70, 71, 73, to 91); the New York Historical Society, May 11th, 1874 (XV., i.); Holland Society, Harlem, March 1st, 1873 (XIV., iii., 87); R. Academy, Lisbon, March 26th, 1874 (88, 89); and R. Observatory, Prague, February 4th, 1874 (88, 89).

Letters of envoy were received from the R. Academy at Amsterdam, Nov. 15, 1873, and the H. Society at Harlem, March, 1873.

Donations for the library were received from the Holland Society at Harlem; R. Academy at Amsterdam; Geological Institute at Vienna; R. Academy at Turin; Revue Politique;